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Inspiration- the forgotten element in improving skin health and wound healing?

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Conflict of Interest

None

Skin health and wound healing is a priority for healthcare professionals across the globe. Many of the efforts to ensure the consistent delivery of high quality care to prevent and treat wounds across the globe have involved quality improvement projects. There have been a variety of wound care related quality improvement interventions (1-3) that have been undertaken in different contexts. There has also been a greater awareness of the need for innovation in wound care that takes into account human factors as well as the organisation and logistics of service delivery (4, 5). Quality improvement and innovation in wound healing have had positive impact in improving the quality of care that patients receive in many settings.

Healthcare systems are inherently complex adaptive systems which are multifaceted and unpredictable (6). Therefore, it is important to consider what other measures or approaches can be implemented to improve wound care in the complex context of healthcare. The experiences, knowledge, attitude and skills of healthcare professionals have been shown (7-9) to have an impact on the quality of wound care that they deliver to patients. Efforts to improve the quality of care have been shown to have a greater impact when healthcare professionals are provided with inspirational leadership (10). Therefore, it is important to consider how inspirational leadership can be utilised in to best effect with regards to ensure that high quality wound care is consistently delivered.

Wound care has been blessed with many engaging people who have provided inspirational leadership in research, academia, clinical practice and industry which has helped to improve the quality of patient care. Inspiration is something that is rarely mentioned in relation to wound care but in my view it is integral to improving patient care. With this in mind, it is important for everyone with an interest in wound care is to consider how they can provide the inspiration and inspirational leadership that is needed to improve patient care. Hopefully, you will find an article in this edition that inspires you to think and act differently with regards to some aspect of wound care.

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